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REMARKS**Election/Restrictions**

Claims 19-30 have been withdrawn from consideration and claims 1-18 remain in prosecution in this application. The provisional election with traverse to prosecute claims 1-18 is hereby confirmed.

Claim Rejection

Claims 1-18 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Didillon et al US Patent 6,255,548 (hereinafter "Didillon") in view of Nakamura et al US Patent 4,691,070 (hereinafter "Nakamura"). The rejection relies on Didillon for disclosure of a catalytic hydrogenation of acetylenic compounds or diolefins to olefins; isoprene is used in the example. The rejection relies on Nakamura for disclosure of the use of hydrazine, N₂H₂ in the catalyst treatment step, citing hydrazine as an organic nitrogen-containing compound.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection because hydrazine does not meet the claim requirement of "contacting said support with at least one organic nitrogen-containing compound...."

The claims use the term "organic nitrogen-containing compound" and the specification uses this term interchangeably with "nitrogen-containing organic compound" and "organonitrogen compound" such as is given in paragraph [0033] at page 9, lines 2-3 and 4, respectively. While Applicants are not averse to using one of these other terms in the claims, the intent of the terminology is clear: the treatment of the catalyst must be with a compound that contains both nitrogen and carbon as given in the specification at paragraph [0019]; paragraph [0021], at the bottom of page 5; paragraph [0033], page 9, lines 4-5; and as given in Examples 2 and 4 of the invention.

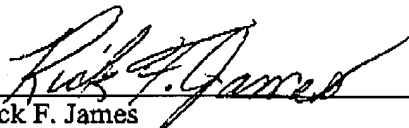
The preferred results of such treatment are discernable from comparison to control examples 1 and 3 in the data of Examples 5 and 6 -- higher ethylene selection from acetylene, and lower green oil (oligomer) make.

The references neither disclose nor suggest the use of nitrogen-containing organic compounds to treat a catalyst to improve olefin production and reduce oligomerization from an acetylenic/diolefin stream. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection, and allowance of claims 1-18 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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